



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 023833-119

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) MAIL STOP/NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Man-yop HAN)
Application No.: 09/831,337) Group Art Unit: 3637
Filed: October 30, 2001) Examiner: Phi Dieu N. Tran
For: TENSION FORCE ADJUSTABLE) Confirmation No.: 2978
PRESTRESS GIRDER)
)

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

- [] A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
[] A Terminal Disclaimer and the [] \$55.00 (2814) [] \$110.00 (1814) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
[✓] Also enclosed is/are Figs. 1, 7 [Amended]
[✓] Small entity status is hereby claimed.
[] Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the [] \$375.00 (2801) [] \$750.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
[] Applicant(s) previously submitted ___, on ___, for which continued examination is requested.
[] Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least ___, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.
[] A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.
[✓] No additional claim fee is required.

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[] An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

AMENDED CLAIMS					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADD'L FEE
Total Claims	7	MINUS 20 =	---	× \$18.00 (1202) =	
Independent Claims	2	MINUS 3 =	---	× \$84.00 (1201) =	
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00 (1203)					
Total Amendment Fee					
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					

[] A claim fee in the amount of \$ --- is enclosed.

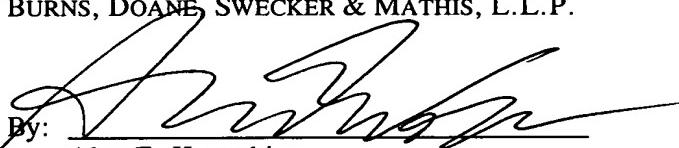
[] Charge \$ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 13, 2003

By: 

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Man-yop HAN) Group Art: 3637
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For: TENSION FORCE ADJUSTABLE)
PRESTRESS GIRDER)

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 13, 2003, please amend
the subject patent application as follows

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IN THE DESCRIPTION

Page 7, replace the paragraph at lines 22-29 as follows

YB1
FIG. 6 shows a preferred embodiment of fixing the each steel wire at the end portion of the girder. The steel wire 26 is anchored using a support member 50 as an anchoring device. For example, the steel wires wire 26 is inserted into a hole formed at the center of the support member 50 at one end of the girder 40. A plurality of wedges 52 are inserted between the steel wire 26 and the support member 50. Here, the steel wire 26 is tensioned by a hydraulic jack and the tensioned steel wire 26 is fixed by the wedges 52.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 7-8 as follows

YB2
FIG. 7 shows that the non-tension steel wires are coupled by the coupling member as a preferred embodiment of a steel wire connection in the cut-open portion. As shown in the drawing, the cut-open portion 36 is formed in the middle of the bottom surface of the girder 40 in the lengthwise direction. The non-tension steel wires 26 27 fixed at both ends of the girder 40 are connected to a coupling member 62 such that forces of different directions are applied. Here, the tension steel wire 26 non-tension steel wires 27 to be connected at the coupling member 62 is are tensioned and fixed by using the wedges 52 so that the tension force by the tension steel wire 26 non-ten steel wires 27 can be maintained. Also, by applying a tension force to the non-tension steel wires 27 and 27a provided at left and right sides of the girder 40, bending of the girder 40 to the left or right can be compensated for.

Page 8, replace the paragraph at lines 6-11 as follows

YB3
Thus, the non-tension steel wires 27 connected to each other by the coupling member 62 is are tensioned and fixed by using the wedges 52 so that the tension force by the ~~tension steel wire 26~~ ~~non-tension steel wire 27~~ can be maintained. Also, by applying a tension force to the non-tension steel wires 27 ~~and 27a~~ provided at left and right sides of the girder 40, bending of the girder 40 to the left or right can be compensated for.

Page 8, replace the paragraph at lines 12-18 as follows

YB4 NG
According to the arrangement of steel wires and the coupling apparatus of the present invention, when a bridge is constructed or at an initial stage of construction, the non-tension steel wires 26 and 27 are connected to the coupling member 62 to be capable of moving to a degree, ~~while the steel wires installed outside the girder 40~~ and are not tensioned at all or tensioned by a small tension force so as to increase the tension forces of the steel wire later.